

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as shown.

1. (Currently Amended)

An isolated or purified DNA ~~selected from the group consisting of the following (a) and (b):~~

~~a DNA having the nucleotide sequence shown under SEQ ID NO: 1~~

~~(b) a DNA which hybridizes with the DNA having the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 under a stringent condition~~

~~——— and codes for a protein having decaprenyl diphosphate synthase activity, wherein said stringent condition is such that the hybridization is carried out at 42°C for 22 hours, and the resulting filter is washed with 0.5 x SSC solution containing 6 M urea and 0.4% SDS at 42°C twice for 20 minutes each and, then washed with 2 x SSC solution at room temperature twice for 5 minutes each.~~

2. (Currently Amended) An isolated or purified protein ~~selected from the group consisting of the following (a) and (b):~~

~~——— (a) a protein having the amino acid sequence shown under SEQ ID NO:2~~

~~(b) a protein having an amino acid sequence showing a homology of not less than 60% to the amino acid sequence shown under SEQ ID NO:2, and having decaprenyl diphosphate synthase activity.~~

3. (Currently Amended) An isolated or purified DNA coding for the protein according to claim 2.

4. (Previously Presented) An expression vector comprising the DNA according to Claim 1.

5. (Cancelled).

6. (Cancelled).

7. (Previously Presented) A transformant as obtainable by transforming a host microorganism with the DNA according to Claim 1.

8. (Previously Presented) A transformant as obtainable by transforming a host microorganism using the expression vector according to Claim 4.

9. (Previously Presented) The transformant according to Claim 7 wherein the host microorganism is *Escherichia coli*.

10. (Original) The transformant according to Claim 9 wherein the *Escherichia coli* is *Escherichia coli* DH5 α .

11. (Original) The transformant according to Claim 10 which is *E. coli* DH5 α (pNTS α 1) (FERM BP-6844).

12. (Previously Presented) A process for producing a coenzyme Q₁₀ which comprises culturing the transformant according to Claim 7 in a culture broth and harvesting the coenzyme Q₁₀ produced and accumulated in the resulting culture.

13. (Previously Presented) An expression vector comprising the DNA according to Claim 3.

14. (Previously Presented) A transformant as obtainable by transforming a host microorganism with the DNA according to Claim 3.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously Presented) The transformant according to Claim 8 wherein the host microorganism is *Escherichia coli*.

18. (Previously Presented) A process for producing a coenzyme Q₁₀ which comprises culturing the transformant according to Claim 8 in a culture broth and harvesting the coenzyme Q₁₀ produced and accumulated in the resulting culture.

19. (Previously Presented) A process for producing a coenzyme Q₁₀ which comprises culturing the transformant according to Claim 9 in a culture broth and harvesting the coenzyme Q₁₀ produced and accumulated in the resulting culture.

20. (Previously Presented) A process for producing a coenzyme Q₁₀ which comprises culturing the transformant according to Claim 10 in a culture broth and harvesting the coenzyme Q₁₀ produced and accumulated in the resulting culture.